January 25, 1990

Millbury, Mass.

The Millbury · S[illegible]on CHRONICL[illegible]

Volume 4 No. 43

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Charter Debated at Public Hearing

By Alec Belisle

MILLBURY - The weather on the evening of Thursday, January 18 was changing from balmy and unseasonably warm back to the harsh winter temperatures, almost a metaphor for what was occurring inside the High School cafeteria where about 75 town officials, town employees and residents gathered for a public hearing on the proposed Millbury Charter. The charter will be on the ballot at the next Annual Town Election and, if approved, will represent significant changes in the way Millbury town government is run.

Charter Commission Chairman Robert Brainard presented an overview of the charter, explaining that the most important elements of the preliminary report are: the retention of the town meeting, the strengthening of the position of selectmen as chief executive officers of the town, the creation of the position of town manager with certain powers assigned to it while under the authority of the board of selectmen, and the establishment of new budget procedures designed to improve management and control.

Brainard turned the meeting over to Charter Commission Vice Chairwoman Terry Hamilton who focused attention on those sections which represent the greatest change.

Article 3, Elected Officers, evoked the largest number of comments from proponents and opponents of the charter. Millbury Police Sergeant Lincoln Barton asked why the town clerk and assessors positions were left elected when most other positions would be appointed by either the selectmen or the town manager.

Wayne Sclar, a commission member, explained that there were several criteria that were used in establishing whether a position would be elected or appointed: state requirements that some positions, like selectmen and school committee, be elected; whether a board was solely policy making and not responsible for direct operation or delivery of services; those positions which require certain administrative or technical skills; offices that are most visible to the townspeople. "Another consideration we had," Sclar said, "was to give the people an opportunity to choose some of their elected officials."

Judy O'Connor, of Hemlock Drive, said that she was in favor of the charter but felt that the town clerk and assessors should be appointed if the commission's intent was to create a strong town manager's position.

Grafton Street resident Bill Moore disagreed with the whole appointing process stating that he feels that residents should have a right to elect their representatives. "All my life I was told it's your patriotic duty to vote,"

Turn to CHARTER on Page 16

Volunteers to Assist in Completion of Historical Structures Inventory

By Alec Belisle

SUTTON - A group of approximately 20 volunteers met Tuesday, January 16 with Historical Commission Chairman Malcolm Pearson and Nora Pat Small, a Sutton resident and an architectural historian, to prepare to finalize an inventory of historical structures in Sutton which began two to three years ago.

According to Small, the volunteers have been assigned streets where they will travel and take pictures of pre-1920 structures. "We have the town pretty well covered," she said. "We're looking for buildings prior to 1920. The survey will be a blanket coverage of the town."

Small said the field work portion of the project will take approximately one month. Another two to three months will be spent filling out informational forms on each of the structures. These forms will be sent to the Massachusetts Historical Commission which will keep them on file for future reference. The information provided in the inventory will: determine which structures should be included on the historical register; determine which districts should be considered historical districts; be used when projects arise to ascertain what the historical impact will be in projects that use federal funds.

Pearson expressed great pride in the fact that Small has agreed to volunteer her services to the inventory because of the outstanding background and experience she brings to the project. Small, who is a candidate for her Ph.D. in American and New England Studies at Boston University, worked for the Kansas Historical Preservation Office as an Architectural Historian. She presently works as a private consultant. Her rich theoretical and practical experience brings added dimension and credibility to the survey.

Nora Pat Small

Pearson explained that Small's generosity and that of the many volunteers doing the field work will allow Sutton to save the $12,000 to $15,000 it would cost to hire an outside concern to do the survey.

Small stated that the slow economic climate is having a very favorable impact on the survey because construction has slowed, allowing the commission to be able to complete their work. Having this grace period will make planning easier in the future when more projected growth is actualized.

The inventory volunteers are: Mary B. King, Barbara Weaver, Leon Dona, Betty Archaic, Tom Archaic, Bud Gurney, John Belculfine, Ruth Putnam, Joy Nydam, Norma Bedrosian, Teresa Dodge, Tom Johnson, Glen Anderson, Paul Murphy, Jim Stevenson, Dave Stephenson, Karen Moran, Dale Coulter, Dave Kendrick, Virginia Merrill, Mary Arakelian, Elizabeth Bacon, Mary Green, and Amos Green.

Teacher Award Presentations

MILLBURY - The Charles F. Minney Post 3329 and its Auxiliary held its annual Scholarship Dinner Dance and Outstanding Teacher Award Presentation on Saturday, January 20. Receiving awards were: (top to bottom) Susan Graf, Elmwood Street School; Richard Smith (far right), Shaw Middle School; Barbara Debs, Millbury High School. Awards were also presented to Blackstone Valley Tech teachers Stephen Fountaine and Roger Bartlett.

THE MILLBURY SUTTON CHRONICLE
117 Elm Street
Millbury, MA 01527
(508) 865-1645

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THE DEADLINE FOR ALL SUBMISSIONS IS NOON ON SATURDAY OF THE WEEK PRIOR TO PUBLICATION.

We The People...

Seeks Support for Toll Free Calling Area

To the Editor:

It has been nine years since the Department of Public Utilities last investigated the rates and services provided by the New England Telephone Company. Last December, following a three month delay due to the CWA/IBEW work stoppage, the most recent inquiry of tariffs and quality of service issues continued under DPU-Docket 89-300. New England Telephone's proposal for the (508) area code would increase the charge of basic service of both residential and business users.

The Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce has been granted intervenor status in this hearing, seeking expanded local calling areas; toll free access into the larger "cities" of Worcester, Milford and Woonsocket; and toll free access throughout the Blackstone Valley. The Chambers' Telephone Task Force has played an active role in the cooperative effort with New England Telephone to improve service and accelerate the modernization process, bringing "touchtone, call forwarding and call waiting" and also supported Nynex-Mobile's and Cellular-One's efforts to construct cellular towers for mobile phones, now functioning in the Blackstone Valley.

While these accomplishments have improved telecommunication use in the valley region, the quality of life comes up short without expanded local calling areas. Blackstone, Douglas, Mendon, Millville, Northbridge, Sutton, Upton and Uxbridge represent communities that must pay toll rates to reach other neighboring towns. Upton, Northbridge and Charlton are the only three towns within a two town radius of Worcester without local access into Worcester. Suttonites actually have three telephone exchanges and depending on what area of town they reside, are able to call six or seventeen communities. Douglas, Northbridge and Uxbridge residents pay toll charges to reach family, friends and doctors at local hospitals in Worcester, Milford and Woonsocket. Uxbridge telephone users reach 18,000 customers while Worcester telephone users reach 150,000 customers.

The DPU will provide a public hearing forum on Thursday, February 1, at 7:30 p.m. at the Hebert Auditorium of Quinsigamond Community College in Worcester.

If you believe in improving the quality of life for those of us who live and work in the Blackstone Valley region, if you believe in making things happen rather than allowing others to make those choices for you, if you believe in expanding the local calling areas of your own community, be at that meeting! The Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce seeks your support of a toll free calling area with a depth of two towns of each community perimeter, with access into Worcester, Milford and/or Woonsocket, and throughout the Blackstone Valley. The door of opportunity has cracked open and I, for one, have stuck my foot inside and welcome you.

Steven C. Rice, D.C.
First Vice President
Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce
Co-Chair Telephone Task Force

Worship Service Rescheduled

The Christian Unity Worship Service, cancelled because of inclement weather on January 21, has been rescheduled to Sunday, February 4, at 6:00 p.m. at the Millbury Baptist Church.

Open Forum in Sutton

SUTTON - The Sutton Board of Selectmen will hold an open forum to discuss amendments to the town traffic rules and regulations on January 30 at 8:00 p.m. during the Selectmen's regular meeting in the Town Hall. The amendments, as proposed by the town's Highway Safety Committee, seek to:
a. Install a stop sign on Hartness Road at Dodge Hill Road.
b. Install a stop sign on Bashaw Road at Boston Road.
c. Make Bashaw Road one way from Dodge Hill Road to Boston Road.

The public is invited to attend and give input for or against the proposal.

OBITUARIES

Occasionally we are asked why there are so few obituaries printed in our newspaper. The answer is simple: we can print only those obituaries we receive. If you would like the obituary of a family member listed in the Chronicle, you must ask the funeral director to send us the necessary information. The fact that someone's obituary appears in another paper does not give us the right to take and reprint that information, nor would we automatically assume that a family would want us to do so.

Calendar

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28
SUTTON - An old fashion New England sleigh rally will be held at the Waters Farm in West Sutton.

MONDAY, JANUARY 29
MILLBURY - "Coffee with the Principals" in the library/media center at the Middle School at 7:30 p.m.

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Millbury Selectmen's Meeting Digest

Selectmen Meet with Finance Committee

By Edward J. Cooney

MILLBURY - The Selectmen met for 20 minutes in their meeting room prior to moving to the Finance Committee meeting to review budgets.

CMRPC

Administrative Assistant Earl Chase reported that the town's assessment for the Central Mass. Regional Planning Commission (CMRPC) was up 2.5%. Cristo asked if the town was forced to pay that. Chase replied that it was an assessment required by state law. Cristo asked if the board had any say in the matter. "No," Chase answered.

Transfer Station

Chase reported that he has been in contact with Town Counsel but not with SEA, the consultants for the transfer station. According to Chase, SEA is recommending partial payment of $50,000 with $11,053 to be held back for items not completed. Chase also said that he does not think SEA has made an inspection of the transfer station recently. He said that the building is complete enough to occupy if the town can get clearance from Town Counsel and the bonding company.

Lachance asked if any money has been given to SEA. Chase said the original contract called for $4600. "They want more," Cristo said.

Lachance moved to hold payment until the town occupies the building. The board approved the motion.

Budgets

Prior to moving on to the Finance Committee, Chase noted that the Municipal Office Building Budget was available, which shows a cut of 10.5%, as recommended, with cuts in supplies, materials, and salaries. The night custodian's position shows a cut from 37 hours to 30 hours.

Cristo asked what the effect would be of the 10% insurance payment employees will be required to pay toward health benefits as applicable by recent state law. Chase replied that the projected savings in health insurance would amount to $92,000.

Selectman Gerry Bleau asked if that figure included all employees. Chase said it only involved employees with HMO's. He said that the 25% that employees pay for Blue Cross/Blue Shield will be retained.

Cristo said that employees may have to pay more than 10%.. "The board will have to decide what it wants. I'm not saying we want to do that," Cristo said. "We need to get answers this week for next week to see what we can do. Employees may have to shoulder more costs for health benefits."

Finance Committee

The meeting with the Finance Committee got off to a start at 7:30 p.m. The Finance Committee and the board reviewed the Selectmen's budget and other related town budgets for the next hour.

Cristo began with the board's budget, noting that salaries for all three employees (administrative assistant, and two clerical employees) were level funded with no raises and a full work week. The budget submitted totalled $89,983.

Cristo said that supplies for the copy machine were wiped out as well as the copy machine itself for the next fiscal year. Clawson said the town clerk's copy machine will have to be used instead. Chase noted that the machine was bought as a used machine at $3250. Cristo said it could be sold or something could be worked out with another department.

Cristo then pointed out other cuts in the Selectmen's budget such as Mass. Municipal Association dues, legal notices, physicals, in-state travel, and the town business fund.

Clawson asked about closing the town hall down for a day. Cristo said that was the least palatable situation as theoretically the selectmen's department couldn't continue to function."We would be cutting our people (hours) with no 6% raise," Cristo said.

Bleau suggested that hours be cut by the amount of the increase of 6% which would come to 2 1/2 hours per week or 1/2 hour per day.

Clawson said he didn't think the unions would accept a pay cut.

"I don't want to speak for them," Cristo said. "We honor our agreements. The onus is on them. They know what the outcome will be."

Lachance remarked that when the town hall was located in the center of town it was closed down on Wednesday afternoons.

Clawson asked what the board's number one priority would be if monies became available. Cristo noted that the board had not looked at priorities.

Also discussed was the savings that will be had with employees paying 10% of their health insurance costs. Cristo said the board will be researching whether the 10% could be extended to 25%. Chase projected if the burden was shifted to 25% payment by all employees it would amount to an estimated $232,000 savings.

Insurance rates for liability and accident health benefits were questioned by Clawson who asked that those rates be checked as well as the premium to cover fire department employees.

Clawson also questioned general liability insurance. Cristo said that a couple of years ago the board took a look at all insurance and in some areas unloaded some insurance and took on some additional risk. "We can look it over again," Cristo said. Chase noted that the car insurance budget shows an increase. He indicated that was accounted for as fleet insurance covers uninsured but not underinsured drivers. Donnelly suggested that now was the time to go out to bid on that insurance.

Clawson asked the board to take a look at health insurance, street lights and compulsory insurance. Cristo said the board would have to look at the impact on employees. He suggested that the board return two weeks from tonight, which was agreeable to the Finance Committee.

Cristo then reported that he received a call from a reporter who said that a copy of a memo was received that indicated that teachers in the Millbury school system were going to propose a 2 1/2 override.

"That's the first I've heard of it," Clawson replied. "It's not been discussed at any length. I have not seen any interest in it."

"I don't think it's going to fly," Cristo said.

Lenten Concert

GRAFTON - The Grafton Ecumenical Choir is planning its Spring Concert for March 25 at 4:00 p.m. The program will include Stainer's Crucifixion. Rehearsals are held on Mondays at 7:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Church in Grafton Center. New members are always welcome. The choir will be under the direction of Charles King of Millbury.

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Another Point of View

NERO FIDDLED WHILE ROME BURNED

By Lawrence Moore

The Paul Kollios treatise in the early January *Millbury-Sutton Chronicle* infuriated some people and prompted them to suggest a commentary.

I must admit that my reaction initially was that Mr. Kollios would be hoist on his own petard. He shows little respect for the intelligence of his readers if he expects that his standing in their estimation will be enhanced by his history and analysis of our current fiscal problems. Even if his report was completely accurate (which it isn't) he misses the point.

The point is: when we visit the doctor we know we're sick. WE WANT TO BE CURED!

His "history" might generate in some of us the notion that Mr. Kollios would serve us better in the classroom where he could teach the knowledge of others, rather than in the House where new thinking is needed. In other words, this is not a time for history, but a time for Action, Decision and Solutions.

It might be well for Mr. Kollios to consider that he represents three essentially conservative towns...towns that voted for George Bush in 1988. There is a growing recognition that "tax and spend advocates" are not in favor. The people know there is waste in State Government, and they want it excised, not excused.

Massachusetts' Bond Rating is the lowest of all the States. There are deficits in three Republican neighbors, Maine, Rhode Island and New Hampshire. These Republican Governors are planning to solve their deficits by cuts, which is probably the reason their bond ratings exceed ours. Their governors CUT. Ours wants to TAX. And until very recently, Mr. Kollios supported this position.

Now hear this! About six weeks ago, Mr. Kollios told a Millbury resident there were no further budget cuts possible. Duke was at that point still pulling Paul's strings. Shortly, as public pressure built, Paul cut the strings and voted for a cut. At Paul's Oxford fund raiser, Keverian and Flaherty were featured. Duke was nowhere to be seen, and, I'm told was never mentioned. Years of "faithful" adherence to Master Duke were quickly forgotten when it became obvious that riding with the Governor would lead to oblivion.

The name of Kollios was not associated with the efforts of Dick Moore and others to take positive steps last December to forestall taxes until cuts are made. That effort failed. The group persisted, and on January 11 forced a Democratic caucus to consider a resolution that in essence will delay tax action until after a second round of budget reductions, reform and restructuring. Again, Dick Moore led the group of five representatives. Mr. Kollios signed on to the caucus plan, no guarantee that he will vote for the proposal, or that he will vote against new taxes.

Here are a few position questions and comments:

- The River, Canal and Heritage Corridor activity in the Blackstone Valley is considered by most to be the catalyst that will result in dynamic progress from Worcester to Rhode Island. Millbury is part of the Blackstone Valley. Why hasn't Paul Kollios been more publicly supportive?

- With all the noise about nepotism, what about a list of the patronage jobs with which Mr. Kollios has rewarded his supporters? How many, who, earnings, and what work? It's public information. You have the right to know!

- The Universal Health Care Bill was not only a budget buster but a business buster. Massachusetts needs all the business it can keep. Business makes jobs. Mr. Kollios voted for the bill.

- Massachusetts taxpayers are up in arms about taxes. Mr. Kollios voted for the new tax package before proposed budget cuts went through.

- Our welfare policies in Massachusetts make our State a haven for the needy, the homeless and the jobless. Mr. Kollios voted to extend welfare to illegal aliens.

- In his article, Mr. Kollios noted that "we in the legislature were not properly alerted to the impending fiscal turnabout." Did he not hear the warnings of Flood and Murphy, among others? Was he not aware of the 21 page report prepared by Dick Moore in 1984 as House Chair of the Committee on Taxation that predicted our present debacle? That report recommended specific legislation to avoid our current situation. That report was prepared with the cooperation of 39 business, banking, educational, and "think tank" leaders. But, as the report says, money in the pocket burned holes, and nothing was set aside for the rainy day.

The report concluded, "Finally, we will have established clearly the inevitability of a tax revolt that will make Proposition 2 1/2 appear mild by comparison." That was 1984. How prescient was Dick Moore, and like other prophets, he was ignored in his own house! "Not properly alerted," Mr. Kollios said. Hogwash. Ever since 1984, through Flood and Murphy, the danger signals have been flashing. Did Mr. Kollios not have the foresight or the experience to listen and act?

- As far as Budget Growth is concerned, where was Mr. Kollios when it grew? The Governor alone could not increase State spending. Playing "hearts and flowers" now can't obscure his part in the Legislature that passed these budgets. What is his voting record on "spending" items?

- Isolating the Budget Busting 40% of the State budget obscures the waste, duplication and inefficiency in the other 60% of the budget, and that part is 7.8 billion. What did Mr. Kollios do about that?

- Increase local aid? Do you think we are so stupid that we don't know that local aid is money taken out of our pockets and returned, less a hefty service charge? What about that, Mr. Kollios?

In conclusion, you must question the righteous preaching in the last paragraph of Mr. Kollios' article. He is now against all the things he voted for in his years as a State Representative. He was a leader in "Tax and Spend." He voted with the machine. He upsized. He distributed patronage. And now he offers us a distorted history, hoping we will not remember his former activities.

Let's have the voting record and the patronage list! If they have the record, the voters will judge Mr. Kollios' performance.

Let's stop fiddling and put out the fire!

The opinions expressed in "Another Point of View" are strictly those of Mr. Moore and do not necessarily reflect the views of this newspaper.

Named to Dean's List

The following local students have been named to the Fall 1989 Dean's List at Quinsigamond Community College:

MILLBURY - Robert Ayotte, Linnea Bengtson, Tracey Breault, Tracy Carlson, Jon Flamand, Michelle Gaboriault, Nicole Glinski, Cara Hines, Patricia Kupstas, Lisa Millette, Walter Moquin, Barry Novak, Alison Ordway, Erica Raymond, Kristen Vaillancourt, Stephen West, Christopher White, Denise Young.

SUTTON - Robert McKinnon, Brenda Nothelfer, Mary Ekstrom.

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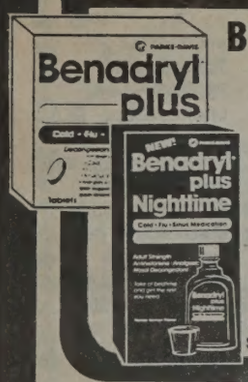

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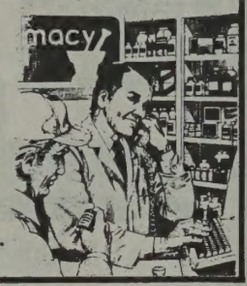

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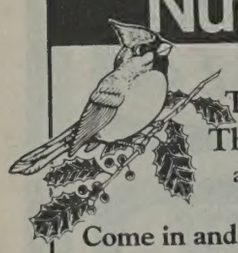

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On The Shelf

By Rosemary Waltos

Isn't life a peach? Just when things start looking up, the state goes bust and we have to cut our budget and then cut it some more. As the gap widens between demand and resources at the Millbury Public Library, we are taking steps to assure that we continue to provide the materials and services that our public expects.

Right now we are trying to keep up with the demand for multiple copies of books on schools' required reading lists. In particular, we are looking for the titles in paperback that are listed below. I'm, sure you'll have fun reading through these titles, remembering the English Lit classes of your own school days. Do you remember those books you had to read? How often did you have to stay up all night reading so that you could write your book report the next morning and hand it in that day? Remember those uninviting titles that back then brought yawns up from your throat. To be sure, as adults many of these books are back on our personal reading list to be reread.

We hope that you will take the time to scan your paperback book shelves at home for these books and donate them to the Millbury Public Library.

1984, Orwell
Adventures of Tom Sawyer, Twain
Alas, Babylon, Frank
April Morning, Fast
Billy Budd, Melville
Brian Piccolo; A Short Season, Morris
Contender, Lipsyte
The Crucible, Miller
Diary of a Young Girl, Frank
Eric Lund, Doris
Farewell To Arms, Hemingway
Flowers for Algernon, Keyes
The Glass Menagerie, Williams
The Good Earth, Buck
The Great Gatsby, Fitzgerald
Heart of Darkness, Conrad
The House of Seven Gables, Hawthorne
The Illustrated Man, Bradbury
Learning Tree, Parks
Man Without a Country, Hale
Moby Dick, Melville
No Promises in the Wind, Hunt
The Old Man and the Sea, Hemingway
Across Five Aprils, Hunt
Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, Twain
Animal Farm, Orwell
Babbitt, Lewis
Brave New World, Huxley
Catcher in the Rye, Salinger
Chocolate War, Cormier
Count of Monte Cristo, Dumas
Day No Pigs Would Die, Peck
Death Be Not Proud, Gunther
Ethan Frome, Wharton
Fellowship of the Rings, Tolkien
Frankenstein, Shelley
Gone With the Wind, Mitchell
Grapes of Wrath, Steinbeck
The Heart is a Lonely Hunter, McCullers
I Never Promised You a Rose Garden, Greenburg
The Last of the Mohicans, Cooper
Lord of the Flies, Golding
Metamorphis, Kafka
My Side of the Mountain, George
Of Mice and Men, Steinbeck
On the Beach, Shute
Ordinary People, Guest
Our Town, Wilder
Pearl, Steinbeck
Pygmallion, Shaw
Red Badge of Courage, Crane
Scarlet Letter, Hawthorne
Shane, Schaefer
Silas Marner, Eliot
Tex, Hinton
To Kill a Mockingbird, Lee
Treasure Island, Stevenson
True Grit, Portis
Watership Down, Adams
Outsiders, Hinton
Pudd'n Head Wilson, Twain
Raisin in the Sun, Hansberry
Red Pony, Steinbeck
Return of the King, Tolkein
Separate Peace, Knowles
Siddhartha, Hesse
Sounder, Armstrong
Tiger Eyes, Blume
Travels with Charley, Steinbeck
Two Towers, Tolkien
Yearling, Rawlings

Thank you to the Millbury Public School system's English Literature Department and School Media Specialist Tom Mongeon for their help in putting this list together.

Library Hours: Tuesday-Thursday, 10-8; Friday, 10-6; Saturday, 10-1. Telephone: 865-1181.

SUTTON SENIOR NEWS

WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

MONDAY: all day doctor appointments (van), crafts 1-3.
TUESDAY: Pokeno at 10 a.m., lunch at noon, Pitch at 1:00 p.m., Special Shopping.
WEDNESDAY: exercise at 11:00 a.m., lunch at noon, PM doctor appointments (van).
THURSDAY: grocery shopping for all (van). Orchard Apartments: health checks from 8-9:30 a.m. Info/Ref from 10-11:30 a.m.
FRIDAY: lunch at noon, blood pressures taken in the library from 12:30 to 1:00 p.m. Bowling in Webster at 1:15 p.m.
TRIPS: WORCESTER SPRING FLOWER SHOW, February 22. Leave from Sutton center. Cost is $6 per person. Blackstone Valley seniors are invited to all the COA's trips and tours. Call 865-9798 for reservations.

COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG, SKYLINE DRIVE, MONTICELLO, BUSCH GARDENS are all included in a 5-day tour to Virginia, via bus. Dates: April 28-May 2. Reservation deposit ASAP is $25.00. Full price $419.00 per person dbl/occ. Call 865-9798 for information.

Women's Bowling League

Two teams are tied for first place and three for second in the team standings: First - M*A*S*H and Dynasty, 20-12; Second - Cheers, Wiseguys, and High Rollers, 16-16.

The High Triple, a 305, was rolled by Gail Higginbottom with strings of 93-108-104. Pat Gaspar rolled an even 300 for second high. Her strings were 110-86-104. Third high was shared by Charlotte Gabree and Cele Hartigan, a 197. Charlotte rolled 86-103-108 and Cele 103-85-109. Pat Gaspar rolled the High Single with her 110.

There were nine who rolled "100 and Over," five of whom rolled double 100's: Pat Gaspar, 110-104; Cele Hartigan, 109-103; Charlotte Gabree, 108-103; Gail Higginbottom 108-104; Becky Rushton, 105-104; Ann Coons, 105; Irma Healy, 104; Kathy Marble, 102; and Debby Boire, 102.

Team Standings	Won	Lost
M*A*S*H	20	12
Dynasty	20	12
Cheers	16	16
Wiseguys	16	16
High Rollers	16	16
Different Strokes	8	24

High Average
Pat Gaspar - 104.4
Charlotte Gabree - 96.6
Becky Rushton - 96.3

High Triple
Charlotte Gabree - 355
Pat Gaspar - 342
Becky Rushton - 325

High Single
Charlotte Gabree - 143
Pat Gaspar - 135
Irma Healy - 126

Top 15 Bowlers
Pat Gaspar - 104.1
Charlotte Gabree - 96.6
Becky Rushton - 96.3
Gail Higginbottom - 96.0
Ann Coons - 94.5
Kathy Marble - 93.3
Marge McArdle - 91.6
Ann Kach - 91.5
Debby Boire - 90.8
Mary Jo Boire - 90.2

New Collection of Books

MILLBURY - Residents at Centerview, Pearl Street, and Colonial apartments will find a new collection of Millbury Public Library books in their activity rooms. These collections feature more than 30 popular titles, including mysteries, romances, and general fiction. Thanks to donations made by the Central Massachusetts Regional Library System, some 60 large print books were added to these collections.

Readers are asked to return their selections to the activity room as soon as they have finished reading them. Collections will be changed again on March 26.

The library has also established a collection of paperback fiction at the Millbury Youth Center. Funding for this collection was provided by a federal grant administered by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners.

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Restructuring and Override Proposals Top Meeting Agenda

By Edward J. Cooney

MILLBURY - The School Committee held its January 17 meeting in a packed Media Center at the High School. The audience of approximately 250 people consisted of students, teachers, parents and interested citizens, present for a variety of issues to be covered at the meeting.

Camelot MHS

Superintendent Dr. Alfred Sylvia called on Terry Hamilton, a permanent substitute teacher at the high school, to present a report on a student "self-help" group called Camelot MHS which meets Thursdays after school. She is assisted in the program by volunteer Wayne Sclar.

Hamilton passed out a packet of material which included activities the group has been involved in and a program description.

Some students were present to voice their support of the program. They noted that Camelot MHS allows them to express their feelings openly without being made fun of or criticized. Many noted that the program affords them an opportunity to be individuals as well as part of a community of caring, sharing, and loving persons. Others said Camelot gave them an opportunity raise their self-confidence, form friendships, and build trust. The School Committee asked no questions of the group but did commend the students for their confidence and presentation before such a large audience.

Proposition 2 1/2

Millbury Teacher's Association President Tom Murray was present to speak to the issue of possible staff reductions and an override of proposition 2 1/2 to offset the proposed cuts in staff. Murray prefaced his remarks by stating that the recommendation (for an override) that would be made received the endorsement of the Union's Executive Board. He did say that some teachers in the system may not agree (with the recommendation for an override) but maintained that "a vast majority do endorse what will be said tonight."

Murray went on to say that he was concerned with the impact the budget crisis will have on the professional staff. "Good teachers are the heart and soul of any good system. They are the lifeblood of what education is all about. It is a tragic and sad commentary on the priorities of our times that there are so many caring and dedicated individuals who truly want to commit their lives and their energies to causes such as education and who are told, in essence, 'We don't want you. You cost too much money.'"

Murray called for closer scrutiny of athletics and extra curricular programs. In addition, he said the feeling is almost universal throughout the teaching staff that the central administration office has not been impacted in any significant way by the budget crisis.

"The teachers who remain after these cuts are made will be stretched to the limit in trying to provide services to our students," Murray said. "They will be doing things above and beyond what would normally take place. Some will be teaching subjects they never taught before...some will be teaching at grade levels they have not taught before or have been away from for many years. We find it unconscionable that these demands will be placed on our teachers and central administrative offices will continue to have three administrative positions. The credibility of this committee and of the superintendent of schools is at stake in this issue."

Chairman Hanratty responded that the committee has always had the interests of the students in mind. He also said that the decision for an override lies in the selectmen's hands.

Committeeman Ed Wilczynski, referring to the override question, said the committee needs to try to do its best with the requested 10.5% cut from the Finance Committee. He also noted that there has been a decline in enrollment. "The first cuts were made in supplies and materials. Teachers were not cut first," Wilczynski said. "We have not seen all the facts and figures yet. We're not ready for 2 1/2 as yet. I want you to know that up front."

Committeeman Bruce Pease said he saw no problem with the Selectmen putting the override question on the ballot.

"Before I decide," Committeeman Alan Marble said, "we have to look hard at the budget. I think I have to know how much of an override and how much of an impact on the taxpayer. That information is vital. Some areas of the budget we haven't looked hard at, such as central administration. We have to discuss that."

Committee member Jane Pojani said she didn't think the town was ready for a 2 1/2 override.

Murray argued that "many studies" show that the public will accept tax increases when the money is earmarked for areas such as education. Murray, who does not live in Millbury, maintained that there is strong support in Millbury for a 2 1/2 override. "When facts are known we could very well prevail," he said.

Teacher George Desrosiers remarked that the high school could be looking at the loss of a certified Spanish teacher. "That would be pretty bad," he said. "Eliminate the administrative position (curriculum coordinator) created two or three years ago," he said. "That could save two jobs." (His remarks received a round of applause)

Wilczynski said that there had not been any decision or discussion of a spanish teacher being eliminated. "I don't know where that information is coming from."

Spanish Teacher Nancy Boivin replied, "I was notified."

Wayne Sclar said he hoped that after the debate and discussion of issues the education community would come together. "I don't believe the enemies of education are in this room," he said. Sclar also called for an override, maintaining that cuts could mean an increase in drugs, dropouts and teen pregnancies.

Pease, referring back to Wilczynski's remarks concerning teacher notification of layoffs, said that there had not been any public announcement of people whose jobs could be in jeopardy nor were there any formal written notices. "What has been done," he said "by consensus of the committee (not a formal vote) was that teachers be notified they could be in danger and personally inform them of the possibility so they not read it in the paper."

Turn to SCHOOL on Page 8

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SCHOOL from Page 7

Hanratty noted that the budget is now 1.2% over last year's. "We have $400,000 to cut if there is no 2 1/2 override."

Former School Committee member Alan Tuttle said that it has been mentioned that teachers, cafeteria workers and secretaries may be cut, but there has not been any mention of cuts in central administration. "If cuts are not made there," Tuttle said, "there may be a problem in selling to the people a need for an override." Tuttle also noted that there are now fewer than 1500 students in the system.

Hanratty remarked that there has been a loss of 100 students per year since 1975. "The system has continually lost enrollment," he said.

Restructuring

In order to achieve the 10.5% reduction in the school department budget requested by the Finance Committee, Sylvia has submitted four plans to the School Committee for consideration. (The **Chronicle** obtained a copy of the four plans as listed below. Plans 1 and 2 contained only a one paragraph description while plans 3 and 4 went into much greater detail.) Sylvia is recommending the adoption of Plan 3.

Hanratty pointed out that $400,000 in "people cuts" would be accomplished by any of the four plans submitted.

PLAN 1

Plan I would retain the present grade structure and reduce teachers at each of the three schools, according to seniority. The effect of teacher reductions would be the elimination of industrial arts, talented and gifted, and home economics at the Middle School, along with an increase of class size at the Elmwood and Shaw Middle School and a reduction in the music and physical education staffing at the high school. In addition, the plan calls for the elimination of one librarian at the K-7 level. According to Sylvia, this plan would result in a staff reduction of 12-15 teachers.

PLAN 2

This plan would keep the same grade structure in each building but would establish two instructional teams, one at grade 6 and one at grade 7, which, according to Sylvia, would make for a better utilization of staff. A grade level team would consist of 5 teachers, each with a strong competency in a specific content area. The content areas would be English/ Language Arts, Reading, Math, Science, and Social Studies. This would reduce two team leader positions and five teaching positions in addition to the elimination of industrial arts, talented and gifted, home economics at the Middle School and would leave only one media specialist (librarian) in K-7.

According to Sylvia, the total staff reductions would be 12-15 teachers if adopted.

PLAN 3

This plan calls for moving grade 7 to the high school and grade 3 to the Middle School. The Middle School would be organized as an elementary building with self contained classrooms, grades 3 to 6, or it could have 3 and 4 self-contained and grades 5 and 6 as instructional teams as noted with plan 2 for grades 6 and 7. The number of teachers needed for a team is 5 which works well at 125 students, according to Sylvia, but is costly when there are 100 or fewer in a class.

This plan states that the "more cost effective organization and easiest to make changes is the self-contained class organization." Millbury's grade level enrollment lends itself to either form of organization structure which has "pro" and "con" arguments. Sylvia states in the plan, "My concern for the maintaining of younger students who are in their formative years would be not to begin teaming before grade 4 and better in my opinion to begin at grades 5 or 6."

If the School Committee agrees to move grade 7 to the high school, Sylvia maintains that five teachers would need to be transferred to accommodate the move. With K-2 in one building and grades 3-6 in another, Sylvia argues, "there would be more effective use of staff and reductions could be made in non-academic areas much easier."

According to Sylvia, possible staff reductions in industrial arts, home economics, talented-gifted, guidance, art, music, physical education and media could be more efficiently implemented with this plan. "Class size adjustment could be better managed and discipline for K-6 program is less demanding than a K-7 program," the plan states.

"If we are organized as self-contained elementary program K-6," Sylvia stated in the plan, " we would have approximately 14 self-contained classrooms at the Elmwood Street School and 19 self-contained classrooms at the Shaw Middle School. In addition, there would be a classroom need for special needs, reading, art,, music, and Chapter I."

The high school presently has an enrollment in grades 8-12 of 535 students. Next year, just over 500 is projected and in September, 1991, the grade 8-12 enrollment will fall below 500 to approximately 485 students.

No figures were presented as to the number of students that would be enrolled at Elmwood or the Shaw School.

According to Sylvia, five teachers at least would be automatically reduced with other staff cuts to be made to reach the $400,000 cut figure for each plan.

Sylvia also noted that because of the low number of students at the high school, programs and staff would be in jeopardy at that level if programs are not restructured. Several years ago, the 8th grade was moved to assist in accomplishing the same goal.

PLAN 4

According to Plan 4, If the Middle School became self-contained for grades 4-7 instead of departmentalized at grades 5 and 6, all content certified staff, six in number, would be transferred to the high school except one who would be cut. This would result in six teachers at the high school being cut. Five teachers would be assigned to self-contained classes. The committee would determine if talented and gifted as well as industrial arts and home economics would be eliminated at the middle school.

In Plan 4, the offering of band and chorus to grades 6 and 7 would need to be studied as well as staffing for music, art and physical education. Grade 6 is presently in a departmentalized program and would then be moved back into a self-contained system which Sylvia referred to as "poor."

The need for four grade seven classroom teachers would make it possible to keep four individual teachers.

Turn to SCHOOL on Page 9

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SCHOOL from Page 8

However the plan states that the number of teachers that could be reduced without effecting an increase in class size is limited to the high school teachers in music, art, physical education, industrial arts, home economics, and talented and gifted.

According to Plan 4, the range of staff reductions would be approximately seven to eleven teachers. Elementary classroom teachers could be reduced by four teachers, but this would result in class size increasing. According to Sylvia, this plan does not have the instructional program advantages that plan 3 has nor does it allow you to keep class size at approximately 25. In addition, "it does not offer the ease of eliminating special area teachers such as media or guidance. Also, special education staffing could possibly be better reduced with grade 7 housed at the high school."

Parents' reactions to the recommended Plan 3 centered on concerns over moving grade 7 up to the high school complex and the intermingling of 12 year old students with upper classmen.

Two parents expressed concern with moving grade 3 up to the Shaw School and the possible busing of students in grade 3 with students in grades 4, 5, and 6.

Another parent said, "I lived through the last change, the 8th grade going up to the high school and at that time Dr. Sylvia said they (8th graders) would be kept separate (from the high school students). That's not the case. They are assimilated. They grow up quickly. I have real concerns with grade 7 going up there."

Sylvia said that grades 7 and 8 will be self-contained for academics but students could be intermingled in the library or in after school activities.

A Mrs. Landry drew applause when she said that committed to do something with regard to that concern.

Music teacher Mike Nagy expressed concern with the music program if plan 3 is adopted. He said that students of different instrumental and choral ability would be mixed together which could create problems with more accomplished musicians dropping out.

Another parent, Paul McQuade, asked what impact an override would have on the tax rate. Hanratty said the committee had not looked into that as yet.

Parent Tom Nault suggested that everything be done to maintain adolescence and segregate 7th and 8th graders from grades 11 and 12. "I'm getting a different drift when you speak of grades 7 through 12 rather than saying grades 7-8 and 9-12."

He also noted that back in 1961 there were separate facilities with a separate administration and guidance. He said he was concerned what could happen socially between classes. Sylvia said that there is only a three minute passing time.

Teacher Anna Lewandowski noted that the chemistry, business, and writing labs are located in the building slated to be used for grades 7 and 8. "If you bring up grade 7 you should try to maintain grade 7 and 8 in that building," she said.

She noted that because the lab rooms are used by upper class students it would not always be the case that they would be separate. She also indicated that students would have to go through the senior high building for late slips or discipline and for lunch in the cafeteria.

A parent then remarked "If you are not able to segregate the 8th grade now, how are you going to do it with double the number. There won't be enough room."

Sylvia replied that Carmody has presented a plan which is still being studied. "I expect parents to sit on committees as well as teachers. We need proper planning

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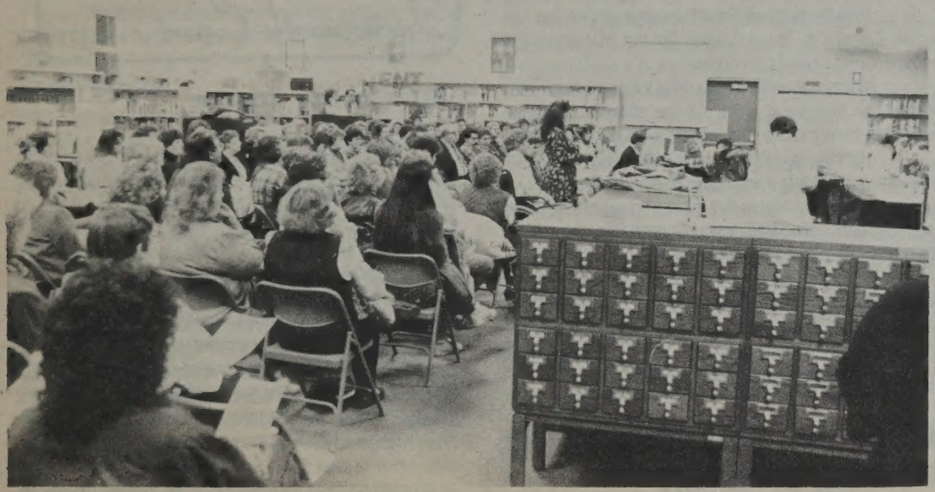

School committee members Hanratty, Marble and Pease indicated they would support Plan 3. Mrs. Pojani said she was more in favor of Plan 2. Wilczynski also said he leaned towards Plan 3 although he originally did not support it. He also asked that a vote be held up until Principal Carmody comes back at the next meeting to report on how grade 7 will be organized at the high school complex. As a result of his request, thought not readily agreeable to all his colleagues, the chair opted to wait until the February meeting to vote on one of the four plans.

youngsters have enough pressures and moving grade 7 up to the high school would just add to that stress. She also noted that it was asking too much for 7th graders to deal socially with upper classmen.

Sylvia noted that other school systems have a junior-senior high structure. He also said that parents would be asked to become involved in any of the plans. "We expect parents to have considerable input."

Another parent said she would feel a lot better if 8th graders were on their own. Sylvia replied that Carmody is

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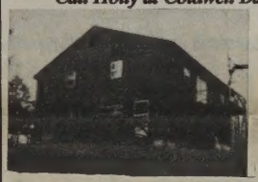

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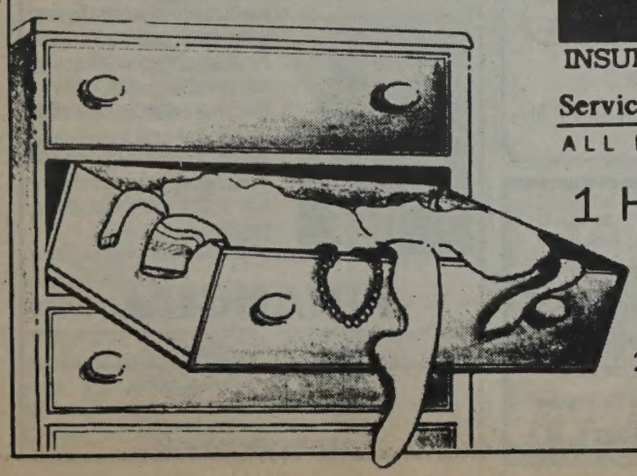

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SCHOOL from Page 9

time," he said.

Iowa Testing

The meeting continued with Sylvia reporting on the results of the Iowa test. He emphasized that the good news was that the school and students are moving forward, though not dramatically as far as overall results are concerned.

Sylvia said that in the past three years students have shown an overall gain of 5 percentage points which, according to Curriculum Coordinator Dr. David Troughton, indicates some significant gain.

"We are improving. It's credible and respectful," Sylvia said. Both he and Troughton agreed that results show that improvement is needed in higher order thinking such as making judgments, inferences and problem solving.

It was noted that the guidance department will be identifying students with significantly low scores.

Sylvia also stressed that the system is having a "rough time" addressing the area of spelling, and as a result a task force will address that issue.

Wilczynski said he was glad there is an emphasis on spelling but also requested that more consideration be given to the development of listening skills.

Curriculum Audits

Curriculum audits in math, social studies and english language arts have begun. Sylvia commended Troughton for his efforts in planning the all day programs.

Appointments

Sylvia recommended the appointment of Carol Fotos, Karen McGuire, and Linda Tift for a curriculum development project for kindergarten learning centers. The project will be funded by an Early Childhood grant. The committee approved the appointments unanimously.

Bus Route

Business Manager Sue Pierce reported that, starting next week, school buses will no longer be travelling up or down Rte.146. Both parents and Safety Officer Ron Richards will be notified of the change in routes.

Lab Relocation

Pojani raised a concern expressed earlier in the evening with the chemistry, writing, and business labs being located in the wing where grade 8 and grade 7 students would be housed if the committee approves a restructuring of grades. She said that if the labs are not relocated, upper classmen would be intermingling with the younger students which is not the impression that parents were given.

Sylvia said that if a team approach is used, grade 7 and 8 students would be in one close area.

Several parents spoke up saying that they had the impression the labs wound be moved and grade 7 would be in a controlled situation. One parent noted that grade 8 students were intermingling now in study halls and the cafeteria.

"The intent was that grade 7 and 8 would be together only," one parent said. "That's what was said when grade 8 came up here. It should have been said about labs not moving when the other parents were here (earlier in the meeting when the plans were discussed)."

"We will try to accommodate your concerns," Sylvia replied,noting that Principal Carmody will be at the next meeting.

Conflict of Interest

Pojani then raised a question of a possible conflict of interest if Bruce Pease were to vote on any of the proposed plans since his wife is a teacher in the system. She said she had called the State Ethics Commission who recommended that the issue be checked with town counsel.

Pease maintained that there would be no conflict.

Pojani disagreed with Pease since there will be specific cuts made in staff.

Wilczynski agreed with Pojani that town counsel be asked for an advisory opinion.

Hanratty suggested that the matter be taken up with Austin Broadhurst, legal counsel for the Massachusetts Association of School Committees.

Wilczynski noted that the Ethics Commission called for the use of town counsel. "If the ethics commission suggested town counsel, that's the way to go."

Hanratty said that the Ethic's commission may not have realized that they had access to other counsel.

Wilczynski argued that a more unbiased judgement might be forthcoming from town counsel. Hanratty said he disagreed. "Then give it to both if you want," Wilczynski said. "I don't feel comfortable with an opinion from the school committee's association."

Hanratty said he would call the Ethics Commission and go with their recommendation.

The meeting adjourned at 11:58 p.m.

Students Participate in Wedding Ceremony

MILLBURY - On December 22, students in the Family Living Class at Millbury Memorial High School participated in a wedding ceremony at the school. The purpose of this project was to teach students the responsibilities and finances of planning a wedding through hands-on practical experience. Students participating as ring bearers and flowers girls were chosen from the nursery school students at Millbury High.

Millbury Adult Education

MILLBURY - The Millbury School Department will hold registration for the Spring session of the Adult Education program on Tuesday, February 13, from 7-9 p.m. in the High School Cafeteria.

Early registration may be made by sending a check and your course selection(s) by Tuesday, February 13, to: Robert D. Sullivan, Adult Education Director, Elmwood Street School, Millbury, MA 01527. Classes will begin the week of February 26 and run from 7-8 p.m.

Tuition for a 10 week course is $25.00 and a mini course of 5 weeks is $15.00. Millbury Senior Citizens, 63 years of age or older, may register for a $15.00 fee for all courses. If you have any questions, call Sullivan at 865-5241.

MONDAYS - High School - Knitting, Needlework, Golf
TUESDAYS - Middle School - CPR (mini course)
WEDNESDAYS- High School - Introduction to the MacIntosh Personal Computer, Quilting; Elmwood Street School, Ballroom/Line Dancing.

From My Window on Farnsworth Court

By "Pastor Rae" Cameron

This week I have conducted both a funeral and a memorial service. It makes for a very busy week besides several other services that I had to conduct, but I thrive on being kept busy. These occasions make one ponder on one's own mortality and the ultimate goals of living and then dying.

We all must face the inevitable, and as much as we dislike the topic yet we must discuss it. First, you should talk it over with the significant other in your earthly life. Recently I sat down and wrote down a few things that I would like to have at my own funeral service. I did not make it binding, but did give suggestions and those things that mean a great deal to me personally. There has to be some flexibility here so that those who grieve will have the opportunity to have their needs met.

Then there is the need for a will. This should include these days a living will which will express your desires for the use of exceptional means to maintain your life. It should also appoint someone as the incontestable administrator of your affairs. This person would have the authority to take care of your financial affairs and would also have the authority to determine if the life sustaining mechanisms had done their job.

Of most importance of all is for you to determine your right relationship with God and the assurance of a heavenly home with Him. Jesus said, "In my Father's house are many mansions...." I make no judgments on other religions, but for me a right relationship with Jesus has given me a wonderful peace and assurance that my ultimate goal in life will be an eternal existence with Him.

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Board Gives Go-Ahead to Affordable Housing Mapping Survey

By Lawrence Moore

SUTTON - The January 16 meeting of the Sutton Selectmen was convened at 8 p.m. by Chairman Richard LaBonte with all members present.

T.J.'s Lounge

Town Administrator Dexter Blois informed the board that the owner of T.J.'s Lounge in Manchaug had not applied for a liquor license renewal by January 1. Consequently, the owner will have to file for a license as a new applicant. Blois said he explained to the owner what procedures to follow and gave him the forms required. He also told him that all the back taxes would have to be paid. The lounge is presently closed for remodeling.

According to Blois, the owner has indicated that he may not seek a liquor license but instead open T.J.'s up as a "teen canteen."

Camp Marion

Blois reported that he has a letter from Town Counsel explaining the status of the Camp Marion acquisition. There has been some question as to the ownership of an internal roadway. The board agreed to maintain the status quo with regard to the roadway rather than spend more money to have a more thorough title search done or have the road laid out by a surveyor.

Transformer Passage Through Sutton

Blois said he met with Police Chief Alfred Shaw, Highway Surveyor Raymond Smith and John Shaughnessy of Shaughnessy Truckers, a Boston rigger company, on January 16 to discuss a proposal to move a transformer from Millbury through Sutton and onto the generating plant being constructed in Burryville, Rhode Island.

According to Blois, the transformer is to be delivered at the railroad siding at River Street in Millbury. Because of its size and weight, a special multi axle tractor trailer 126 feet long and 18 feet wide is needed for transport. Because the transformer section is 18 feet high, it cannot use the under passes on Rt. 146, and because of the combined weight of the unit and the trailer it cannot use load limit bridges.

According to Blois the riggers will pick up the transformer on River street behind the ambulance garage, follow Elm Street east to the center, then down South Main Street and onto Dudley Road in Sutton, to Boston Road where they will access Rt. 146. Blois said the riggers estimate the trip down Dudley road will take two hours. "I figure if Murphy's Law prevails, (it will take) four hours. Nothing ever goes right with a move like that so I figure four (hours)," Blois said. The riggers will be accompanied by telephone and power company trucks to move lines. The road will be closed off during the move which will start around nine o'clock in the morning after the school buses have passed.

Licopoli asked if the truck would damage the roadway. Blois explained that in spite of the load, 426,000 pounds, there will be no damage to the roads because the weight will be distributed over the 30 axles.

According to Blois, four trips, about a week apart, are planned for four transformers. Blois said the movers will give him 24 to 48 hours notice.

Town Planner

Blois said the process of seeking a replacement for former Town Planner Ted Brovitz is underway. Brovitz left Sutton to become the Town Planner in Brattleboro, Vermont. The position has been advertised and applications have been turned over to Scott Paul, Chairman of the Planning Board. According to Blois, six individuals and two companies have responded.

Board member Mary K. Connor suggested that the town consider hiring Brovitz to complete the projects he began while his position is still funded by the town rather than defer the projects. The board discussed the problem that Sutton faces with respect to the planner. Brovitz was shared by Northbridge and Sutton. Northbridge has now withdrawn from the agreement leaving Sutton to fund the position alone. Connor suggested that it might be better to have Brovitz complete the projects than hazard not being able to hire a full time planner.

A proposal from Brovitz to complete his long range planning project is expected. The selectmen agreed the project should be completed.

Housing Partnership

Linda Roach of the Housing Partnership Committee questioned the status of the grant for preliminary survey work on the site of the chicken farm on Mendon Road. Notification of the grant was made about six months ago. On December 5, 1989, the selectmen signed a contract with Dunn Engineering to do the survey work which includes: soil analysis, wetland mapping, hazardous waste study, and an engineering report.

The normal procedure in these matters is for the work to be contracted by the town and completed before the State reimburses the town. But in light of the current tenuous fiscal condition of the state, Blois feels that there is a possibility that the actual check for the project may be delayed or canceled, leaving the town liable for the payment. Discussion between board members and Blois centered around this point with Blois reiterating that he would not approve the project until he received the reimbursement check and not just a letter of authorization from the state, or until the selectmen approve the project recognizing the possibility that Sutton might have to pay the $5,000.

LaBonte said he felt the town should move ahead with the survey fearing that the town might lose the reimbursement funds if it delays much longer.

Johnson interjected a note of caution explaining that he is presently involved in a situation in which the state has backed off from payment.

Selectman Michael Chizy observed, "The state has problems, but we can't base all our decisions on negative thinking. The board (of selectmen) has an obligation to study affordable housing and I think the board should vote for this."

Licopoli suggested that the board should proceed with the project whether it receives another letter of authorization or not, and if the state fails to reimburse the town, the board should get the necessary appropriations to complete the project.

The board voted unanimously to proceed with the project.

Article Sponsorship

Connor brought up the subject of sponsorship of articles for the Town Meeting Warrant. According to Connor, several articles are being sponsored by the Town Administrator and she felt they should be sponsored by the board of selectmen as is stipulated in the charter.

Board members decided to review the language in the charter and to bring the matter up under "Old Business" at the next meeting.

Appointments and Elections

Connor requested a list of appointments to be made for the next fiscal year.

Town Clerk Ethel O'Day has resolved confusion as to the rotation of elected and appointed positions for the planning board. A check will be made to see which procedure (elected or appointed) will be in effect this year. After this year, one member will be elected each year and one member appointed two out of three years. The membership of the planning board will finally consist of three elected and two appointed officials.

Skyline Drive

Blois explained that the release of the "Hold" on Lot 3 in Skyeline Drive will occur on or before January 31, if the agreed upon settlement will be paid to the town.

"When it's all said and done down there," Johnson asked, "are we going to recoup all the money we've got invested down there - counsel fees and everything else?" He expressed his anger with developers who begin projects and fail to comply with town by-laws forcing the town to spend money in litigation when developers should abide by the by-laws as a matter of course.

Connor answered that the predicament arose because the town allowed people to move into houses while problems still existed. "The important thing is that we learn a lesson and the next time it happens, we do it the right way so we're not involved with town counsel."

Turn to SUTTON on Page 13

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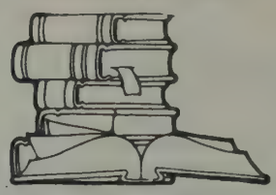

Books and More...!

By Joanne N. Donnelly

Have the "Christmas Blues" set in yet? It was always my belief that by keeping busy one would avoid them. However, today's family is so busy that the expression shouldn't even exist. The secret must be in being busy with something you like to do. Here are a few suggestions to spark your interest. Some may dampen your spirit but they'll all keep you busy.

Books, of course, head the list as there's nothing more satisfying than becoming involved in a good yarn and letting the rest of the world go by. After offering almost nothing except books on tax deductions last month, some fiction and some good authors are showing up in the book catalogs again. Robin Cook keeps up the suspense with **HARMFUL INTENT**, while Dean Koontz continues the terror with **THE BAD PLACE**. Joan Hess delights us with **A DIET TO DIE FOR**, while Corinne Sawyer offers **MURDER IN GRAY AND WHITE**. Lustbader keeps things going with **WHITE NINJA** and Jack Higgins' fans can look for **COLD HARBOUR**.

Some non-fiction that will interest quite a few are **COUNTERATTACK** by W.E.B. Griffin, the continuing saga of the Marine Corps, plus a book that is receiving much media attention, **IN DEFENSE OF AMERICAN LIBERTIES**, the story of the ACLU and how it has shaped modern law. This topic can be added to the list of things about which you do not speak at a party. The first is religion, then politics; women's lib can start a lot of trouble, and now civil liberties. However you feel about Senator McCarthy, the internment of Japanese-Americans during WWII or the Scopes "Monkey Trial," this is the first comprehensive history of the organization and excellent reading for teachers of government and history. Its author is Samuel Walker, a professor of criminal justice at the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

A book that will remain in our collection (others on the subject had been loaned by the bookmobile) is entitled **MEDICAL TESTS AND DIAGNOSTIC PROCEDURES**, A Patient's Guide to Just What the Doctor Ordered, by Philip Shtasel, D.O. It not only explains what to expect from a specialist, but details of the medical and laboratory tests, with discomfort and hazard ratings along with length of time the tests require. Quite often we don't even know the questions to ask of these doctors. If you are as convinced as I that "ignorance is bliss," this is not the book for you. (But probably should be.)

There is **HANOVER PLACE** by Michael Thomas for the distaff side; joined by **RITTENHOUSE SQUARE** from Zellerbach and **DOCTORS & DOCTORS' WIVES** from Francis Roe. Victoria Holt bring us **THE CAPTIVE** and its out as often as Judith Michael's **A RULING PASSION**.

Important doings are going on up here, and Storyhour has been delayed a little. Sign-up will take place starting Tuesday, February 13 and will last until the slots are filled. Can't wait to see those little faces.

Please be aware that we have videotapes for the SAT and PSAT exams, both the verbal and math. Your upperclassmen will be spending long Saturday hours doing their best and these tapes can only help. Pick one up on the weekend so that your student will have until Tuesday to view it. Local bookstores have books that are great helps, also. It is well worth the price to have a workbook with sample tests (and answers). We who have taught or do teach use the term "expendable workbooks" since the pages are written on and are used up, which is exactly why the library doesn't have them. (Being a teacher is like being a parent - you'll always be one.)

While you're picking up the SAT video, reward the family with another such as **DR. STRANGELOVE** (definitely a classic!), **LAWRENCE OF ARABIA**, **MAN FROM SNOWY RIVER**, or **ROMANCING THE STONE**. If your children only come up to your knees, we have **THE LAND BEFORE TIME** (any age likes this one), **LYLE, LYLE, CROCODILE**, with MADELINE and Richard Scarry's **BEST ABC VIDEO EVER!** Of course, there's always my personal favorite **FOGHORN LEGHORN**.

Now, the plain truth of the matter is we need **VOLUNTEERS, VOLUNTEERS, VOLUNTEERS!** If you need an evening out, with good company, a cup of coffee or tea, then why don't you come Thursday evening, February 8, and February 15, and we'll iron out some of the things the library would like to accomplish. These dates should be before soccer, baseball and old age start, so bring your knitting, your mending, your ideas, and yourself at 7:30 p.m. Bring a friend...bring two friends. Remember, February 8 and 15. Come see us soon!

Roast Beef Supper

SUTTON - The First Congregational Church of Sutton will hold a Roast Beef Supper on Saturday, February 3, with sittings at 5:00 and 6:15 p.m. This all-you-can-eat family-style supper will include: mashed potatoes, gravy, cabbage au gratin, homemade bread and dessert, and onion soup. Tickets are $6.00 for adults and $2.00 for preteens. There is no charge for children age 5 and under.

Close of Deephole Season

SUTTON - The Sutton Board of Health closed deephole season on January 17 because the groundwater table is too low. Percolation testing may still be done. Applications are available at the Board of Health Office.

Bottles, Cans, and Cookies!!!

SUTTON - Sutton Cadette and Senior Girl Scouts are looking for bottles and cans. Pick up can be arranged by calling 865-3210. Girl Scout cookies can be purchased by calling the same number.

Sutton P.T.A.

SUTTON - The Sutton PTA will hold its next meeting on Thursday, February 8, at 7:30 p.m. in the Elementary School Auditorium. A 90-minute workshop on conducting Parent-Teacher conferences will be directed by psychologist Ron Pasternak. Any new business will be discussed during a brief business meeting immediately following the workshop.

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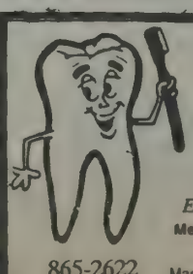
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SUTTON from Page 11

Highway Committee Recommendations

On December 21, 1989, the Highway Safety Committee consisting of Fire Chief John Peterson, Police Chief Alfred Shaw, Highway Surveyor Ray Smith and Town Engineer Richard Wharton met and recommended several highway changes.

1. Install a "Stop" sign on Hartness Road at the northeast intersection with Dodge Hill Road and place signs to prevent left turns from Hartness to Dodge Hill and right turns from Dodge Hill to Hartness.
2. Convert Bashaw Road to "One Way" east to west.
3. Install a "Stop" sign at the intersection of Bashaw Road with Boston Road.

The selectmen agreed to postpone action for two weeks in order to allow interested residents to comment on the proposed changes. These changes will be discussed at their January 30 meeting.

T-Ball Committee

As the meeting was adjourning, David Zimage of the T-Ball Little League Committee, reported that his committee is interested in making the area of the former Wilkinsonville School usable for the league's activities. Noting that any use would be temporary, the Selectmen advised Zimage to make his request in writing to the board who will seek input from the Recreation Committee prior to voting on the request.

Sutton Men's Bowling League

SUTTON - Gvazdauskas (also known as "Big Jim") rolled a three string total of 389 with individual strings of 133-141-115, giving him a three string total over average of +98.

Team #2, under Captain Peterson, and Team #5 under Captain Bordeaux, are leading the second half with 12 points each. Team #1 under Captain Jones and #4 under Captain King each have six points. Team #3 under Captain Gvazdauskas has 8 points and Team #6 under Captain Salo has 10 points.

This is a fun team and visitors or "subs" are always welcome on Wednesday nights at 8:15 p.m. at the Mohegan Bowl-a-Drome in Webster.

Sutton Political Calendar

Spring Annual Town Election, April 28
Spring Annual Town Meeting, May 7

MARCH 8 - last day to obtain Nomination Papers
MARCH 12 - last day to file Nomination Papers with the Board of Registrars (this must be done ahead of the date for filing with the Town Clerk because signatures must be certified.)
MARCH 26 - last day to file Nomination Papers with Town Clerk
MARCH 28 - last day to Withdraw Nomination Papers
Voter Registration Sessions
MARCH 31 - Saturday registration session on last Saturday before the close of Registration, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
APRIL 6, last day to register to vote for Town Election and Town Meeting, 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.
APRIL 20 - last day to post Warrants for Town Election and Town Meeting.
NOTE: If the last day for filing falls on a Saturday or Sunday and the office is closed, the deadline for filing is the next working day. If the last day for Registration falls on a Saturday or Sunday, the deadline for Registration is the day before.

Millbury Women's Club

MILLBURY - The Millbury Women's Club will meet on February 5 at the First Congregational Church. A mini-luncheon will be served at noon.

The guest speaker, Ms. Belding from the Worcester Historical Society, will discuss the history of valentines beginning with their birthplace in Worcester. Members are invited to bring their own old valentines to share the memories.

Co-Chairwomen for this meeting are Elaine Loehmann and Mildred Mickelson. They will be assisted by Arlene Ball, Kay Cristo, Irene Donnelly, Nancy MacLeod, Ruth Marble, Dorothy Morin, Barbara N. Swenson, Rosemary Waltos, and Zoe White.

Millbury Political Calendar

Annual Town Meeting, May 1
Annual Town Election, April 24

MARCH 6 - 5:00 p.m., last day and hour for submitting Nomination Papers for all elected town officers with the Registrars of Voters for certification of signatures.
MARCH 20 - 5:00 p.m., last day and hour to file Nomination papers with the Town Clerk
MARCH 22 - 5:00 p.m. last day and hour for filing withdrawals of Nomination Papers.
APRIL 4 - 10:00 p.m. last day and hour to register voters for the Annual Town Meeting and Election.
APRIL 16 - last day to file first Campaign Finance Reports with Town Clerk 8th day before Election covers reporting period January 1, 1990 through April 16, 1990.
APRIL 23 - noon - last day and hour for filing applications for absentee ballots.
APRIL 24 - Annual Town Election - 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
MAY 1 - 7:00 p.m., Annual Town Meeting, Memorial High School
MAY 24 - last day to file second Campaign Finance Reports with Town Clerk, 30th day after Election covers reporting period from April 16, 1990 through May 24, 1990.

Open Burning Season

MILLBURY - Open Burning Season will run from January 15 to May 1, weather permitting. Open burning permits will be available at Fire Headquarters, Elm Street, SATURDAYS ONLY throughout the burning season, beginning January 13, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Please Note

Back issues of the Chronicle are NOT available at the office. The Chronicle may be purchased in Millbury at Rix Dunnington Super Drug, Elm Street, Village Knoll Variety, West Main Street, and in Sutton at Sutton Square Pharmacy, Sutton Square Plaza.

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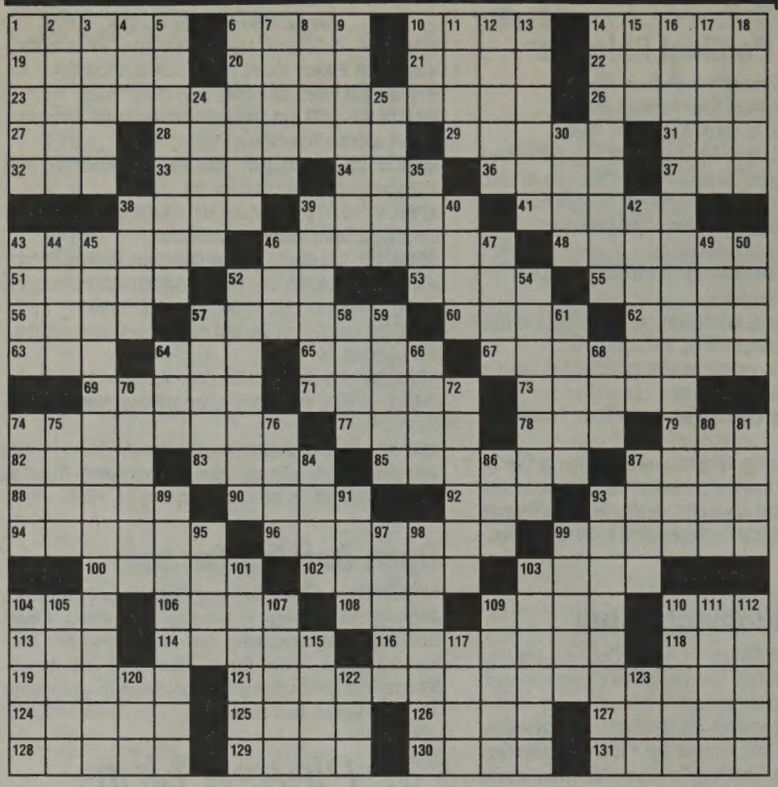
Crossword Puzzle



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By Rita M. Yelle

ACROSS

1 Provide party food
6 Wearing shoes
10 Capitol feature
14 Mexican coins
19 Assent
20 Predicament
21 Standard measure
22 Seed
23 Ponce de Leon's quest
26 Indian princess
27 Hesitant sounds
28 Ligurian Sea port
29 Wilt, the —
31 Young goat
32 Rested, in a way
33 Requirement
34 Everyone
36 Cicatrix
37 Printer's measures
38 Took to court
39 Those against
41 Splotch
43 Yarn weight
46 Common remedy
48 Baseball player, sometimes
51 Baking chambers
52 Mideast org.
53 Green land
55 Buckle, old style
56 Plies a needle
57 Interweaves
60 Nights before holidays
62 Install
63 Miscalculate
64 Charge
65 Ararat landfall figure
67 Procession of cars
69 October gems
71 Of harmony
73 Garner birthplace
74 Doted on
77 Glacial snow
78 Sunbeam
79 Einstein's birthplace
82 Facts and figures
83 Break suddenly
85 Close again
87 Tom, Dick and Harry
88 Modify
90 Allowance for waste
92 Gal of song
93 Layers
94 Measuring devices
96 Legislator, at times
99 Smell and taste
100 Dramatist Clifford
102 Sketched
103 Research fig.
104 French friend
106 Casino cube
108 Anat. or chem.
109 Large bodies of water
110 Resident of: Suffix
113 Mr. Franklin
114 Type of juice
116 Shadlike fish
118 Marble
119 Fence of a sort
121 Jason's quest
124 Willow
125 Romeo or Juliet
126 Essences
127 Forage wheat
128 Paper measures
129 Gaelic
130 Transfer document
131 Checks for prints

DOWN

1 Sidewalk eateries
2 Greek market place
3 Have confidence in
4 Imitation: Suffix
5 Groups of servants
6 Aimed a snide attack
7 Sharpened
8 Aroma
9 Rebellious
10 87 Across less one
11 Burden
12 Catchers' gloves
13 Moral principles
14 Picture
15 A Gabor
16 Florida divers' quests
17 Oily liquid
18 Starters
24 Arabian ruler
25 Big Three meeting place: WW II
30 Wooden strip
35 Unwelcome pests
38 Transgressions
39 Bless, in a way
40 Your majesty!
42 Lake —: Mississippi River source
43 Measured portion
44 Eternally
45 Columbus' quest
46 In the manner of
47 Opera star
49 Mild expletive
50 Nerve network
52 Introduce
54 Nonpartisan
57 Dress accessories
58 Scottish river
59 More balanced
61 Pilfer
64 Aviation agcy.
66 Possess
68 Sharp: Comb. form
70 Smoothed
72 School assignment
74 First lady's man
75 Fonteyn's title
76 Challenge
80 Money in Milano
81 Word with pink or rose
84 Await a decision
86 Jug lug
87 Pale color
89 Flour sprinklers
91 Salts
93 Having prickly flower heads
95 Bustle
97 Source of chocolate
98 Ridgy
99 Rod
101 Sear
103 Used a net
104 Detest
105 Reagan's Attorney General
107 Spartan magistrate
109 Stockholm native
110 Articles
111 Be silent, in music
112 Pitchers
115 Congers
117 Nickname for Edith
120 Precious stone
122 Command to a horse
123 Aussie bird

Solution to Last Week's Puzzle

	A	M	A	R			D	E	S		G	A	S	H		E	T	O	N	
F	L	A	M	E		B	U	N	T		E	C	H	O		R	U	B	I	K
O	P	T	E	D		E	T	T	E		C	H	O	P		A	R	O	M	A
C	H	I	N	E	S	E	C	R	A	C	K	E	R	S		S	K	E	E	T
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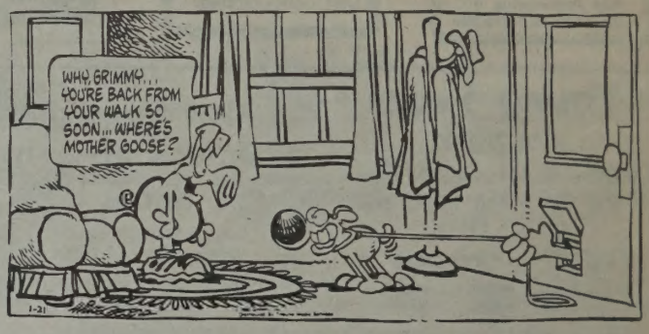
A	B	I	D	E		R	U	S	S	I	A	N	R	O	U	L	E	T	T	E
M	A	G	O	O		O	C	H	S		I	G	O	R		A	P	A	R	T
S	C	O	F	F		A	L	A	E		N	O	S	E		N	E	P	O	S
	O	R	F	F		D	A	W	S		S	H	S			D	E	E	S	



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What's the Difference?

By Pat O'Leary & Larry Ham

HOW TO PLAY: The answers to the two clues rhyme and the beginning consonant sounds are switched. For example: What's the difference between a neckwear fastener and a metal pan for baked desserts? One is a TIE PIN and the other is a PIE TIN. Sound counts, not spelling.

1. A feline in a tavern and a "baseball hitter" in an auto?

A ___ in a ___ and a ___ in a ___

2. A chewer's anger and an author's wash-up?

A ___ and a ___

3. The flesh-colored consumer and the bridge-keeper?

A ___ and the ___

4. The reeker's desk and the handyman's horsebarn?

The ___ and the ___

6-24

ANSWERS: 1. A cat in a bar and a bat in a car. 2. A biter's wrath and a writer's bath. 3. A tan spender and the span tender. 4. The stinker's table and the tinker's stable.

Church Listings

OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION, MILLBURY: Reverend Monsignor Mederic J. Roberts, Pastor; Reverend Robert Spellman, Associate Pastor - Weekday Masses: 7:30 a.m.; Saturday Mass: 4:00 p.m.; Sunday Masses: 8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.; Confessions: Saturday from 3:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

ST. BRIGID'S - MILLBURY: Rev. Thomas J. Markey, Pastor; Rev. Laurence V. Brault, Associate Pastor - Weekday Masses: 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m.; Saturday Masses: 4:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.; Sunday Masses: 7:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.; Confessions: Saturday from 11:30 a.m. to noon, and from 3:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

St. ANNE'S - MANCHAUG: Weekday Masses: Monday through Thursday 9:00 a.m.; Friday at 7:00 p.m.; Saturday Masses: 5:00 p.m.; Sunday Masses 7:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. Confessions: Saturday at 4:00 p.m.; Baptisms by appointment.

ST. MARK'S - SUTTON: Rev. Thomas V. Walsh, Pastor - Weekday Masses: 9:00 a.m.; Saturday Masses: 5:00 p.m.; Sunday Masses: 8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Confessions: Saturday 4:00 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.; Prayer Meeting: Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL, MILLBURY, Telephone - 865-9737: Rev. Bruce MacLeod, Interim Minister - Sunday Morning Worship: 10:30 a.m. - Church School 9:00 a.m.; Mondays 7:00 p.m., Diet Workshop; Deacons - First Thursday; Executive Board - Second Monday; Millbury Woman's Club - First Monday at noon.

MILLBURY FEDERATED CHURCH - United Church of Christ, United Methodist Church - Rev. Charles Mansfield, Interim Pastor - Sundays: 10:00 a.m., Worship and Childcare; 10:15 a.m., Church School; 11:00 a.m. Coffee Fellowship

FIRST BAPTIST, WEST SUTTON: The Rev. John Olson - Sunday Morning Worship at 9:30 a.m. followed by Coffee Time at 10:30 a.m.; 3rd Tuesday of each month - Women's Association meetings.

FAITH ALIVE MINISTRIES - all welcome. 138 Providence Tpke. (Rte.146), Millbury, MA, 865-5966. Pastor John Pfeffer: Sunday morning service and Sunday school, 10:00 am; Evening, 7:30 pm; Wednesday Bible Study at 7:30 pm.

MILLBURY BAPTIST (American Baptist): The Rev. H. Raeburn Cameron, Pastor; Mr. Charles H. King, Minister of Music. Sunday School - Nursery through Adults at 9:30 a.m.; Sunday Morning Worship at 11:00 a.m. (nursery provided); Communion Sunday, first Sunday of the month. Wednesdays: 10:00 a.m., Discovery Group meets for Bible study; Thursdays, Choir Rehearsal at 7:30 p.m.

RAYMOND MEMORIAL CONGREGATIONAL (United Church of Christ): Mr. Raymond Mars, Pastor; Miss Elfreida Klaucke, Organist - Sunday Morning Service at 9:30 a.m.

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL, Main St., Wilkinsonville: Rev. Walter E. Reynolds; Saturday, 5:30 p.m. - Holy Communion; Sunday, 8:00 a.m. Holy Communion - 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion (1st-3rd-5th Sunday); Morning Prayer on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month. Church School - Pre-School - Grade 8

EMANUEL LUTHERAN, 200 Greenwood Street, Worcester, MA, Telephone: 756-6620: George G. Kinney, D.Min., Pastor; Family Worship Service, 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.; Educational Hour for Children and Adults, 10:30 a.m.; Communion on First Sunday of the month. Nursery provided.

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THE VILLAGE BIBLE CHURCH, meeting in the Raymond Memorial Church, Raymond Street, East Millbury: Pastor, Rev. Bruce Buchanan; Sunday Services at 11:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; Sunday School, 5:30 p.m.; Wednesday night prayer meeting and Bible study, 7:00 p.m.

SUTTON FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH: Rev. Andrew J. Bierkan, Pastor - SUNDAYS: 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship & Church School in the Meetinghouse. Crib Room Nursery, Kindergarten, Grades 1-8 at 10:00 a.m.; Jr. P.F. twice a month; Sr. P.F. 7-9 p.m. PROGRAMS: Thursday Morning Bible Study at 10:00 a.m.; 2nd Thursday, Women's Fellowship of Sutton luncheon/program/meeting at noon. MONTHLY PUBLIC SUPPERS, 1st Saturdays, 5-7 p.m. MONTHLY PUBLIC LUNCHEONS: 3rd Wednesdays - noon to 1:00 p.m. April-Nov. Church School stops after June 10, Children's Day.

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH, 70 South Main St., Oxford. Pastor, Rev. Steven Goetsch. Saturday services at 5:00 p.m. Sunday services at 10:00 a.m. (July & August 9:00 a.m.) Sunday School at 8:45 a.m. Holy Communion at all services.

CHARTER from Page 1

Moore said. "Am I going to vote my right to vote away?" He said the charter puts decision making in the hands of a three member majority of the board of selectmen. "Let's give the people a say," he said.

Sclar responded that the commission was concerned with the rights of the people. "Most of the time when people go to the polls, they have no choice," he said. He went on to explain that during the last four elections, out of 61 positions open for election, 49 of them were uncontested. In 1986, 15 positions to be filled, 13 were uncontested; in 1987, 16 positions to be filled, 13 were uncontested; in 1988, 14 positions to be filled, 11 were uncontested; and in 1989, 16 positions were to be filled, 12 were uncontested.

Sclar went on to note that in those four years, there were no contests for the Board of Health, the Parks Commission, or the Sewer Commission. "I don't think we're taking away the voice of the people when we centralize the authority and accountability with the board of selectmen," Sclar said. He also said that there may be qualified people willing to serve the town if they did not have to go through the election process.

David Cofske, of Beach Street, noted that the town clerk and board of assessors' positions also have not been contested and said they should be appointed rather than elected for the very same reasons given. Cofske said he spoke to this issue at a town meeting saying that some positions require a high degree of knowledge and skill and are very sensitive. He offered that the argument that townspeople can vote them out is unsatisfactory inasmuch as a person who is not doing his job has three years before he can be replaced and can do a great deal of damage before that occurs. He added that the commission is contradicting itself saying that some positions were appointed because the office holder needs skills. "Don't tell me the town clerk and the board of assessors don't need skills and experience," he said.

Richard Phelan, of Laurel Drive, commended the commission for their work but disagreed that the town clerk and assessors positions should remain elected. "You're decentralizing the power of the manager," Phelan said. He asked who would control the staff of the clerk and the assessors.

Sclar responded that department heads (clerk and assessors) would oversee their employees, and the town manager would oversee all others.

Sergeant Barton remarked that such a situation would create the problem of diversified management. "You've got a town manager overseeing half the staff and you've got the elected head of that department overseeing the others."

Raymond Lee, of Elm Street, said that he was a proponent of the charter but argued, "It seems that it's the will of the people here that these offices (clerk and assessors) should be appointed."

Cynthia Burr, of Maple Street, said that while the commission stated that they believed in appointments because of the skills needed in certain positions, they ignored the fact that the town clerk and assessors were positions that also require skills.

Terry Burke Dotson, of Beach Street, argued in favor of electing all positions. She related an experience when she was asked by members of the board of appeals to become an alternate. According to Dotson, when she approached the selectmen to be appointed she was placed on hold and eventually was asked instead to become a member of the Swim Committee.

Dotson, who is a member of the Planning Board, also noted that the town spent some $300 to have her trained in comprehensive permits. When the HOP committee was formed, she put her name in to be appointed and was turned down repeatedly for over a year. "Mind you," she said, "I was the only person that the town had trained and paid for and I could not be appointed to the committee."

Dotson also argued that when vacancies do occur on boards they are not always advertised. "A couple of people put their heads together and say, 'I know someone who'd like to be on; he thinks like I do, so let's get him in here.' I don't think it's fair," she said, "I don't think the appointment process works. I wouldn't be on the planning board if I hadn't been elected."

Discussion of Article 4, Town Manager, began with a comment from Anna Lewandowski of Howe Lane. Lewandowski said that the town manager should have at least a Master's degree and more experience than is stated in the charter. "If we're going to hire somebody to run the town," she said, "someone with a bachelor's degree and two years experience is really going to be a fledgling right out of school. He's going to be training and be learning on the job. I think we're setting our standards a little too low." Lewandowski noted that the difficulties of implementing the new charter will require a strong, experienced person.

David Hulseberg, Millbury's Town Planner, said that requiring the candidate to have been the chief administrative officer of a city or town would disqualify someone who worked as an assistant. "You could have an individual who has been the assistant in the City of Boston for the last 15 years and, the way the charter is written, that individual does not qualify to be the town manager. I think there's got to be some verbiage change to allow an individual with that experience (to qualify).

With reference to the cost to the town for a manager, Brainard explained that the salary for the manager would be between $40,000 and $70,000. When one subtracts the salary of the administrative assistant whose position would be eliminated, it would cost the town between $30,000 and $35,000. It was noted that a town manager could conceivably make up this difference in one year by running the town more efficiently.

Several other salient points about the charter emerged as a result of questions from residents.

Sergeant Barton asked if there were any provisions in the charter for a recall of elected officials. When told there was not, Barton asked, "Don't you think that's something the people ought to have a voice in?"

Sclar responded that the commission had discussed recall. "We are not unanimous in not having recall," he said. "Some of us believe that a recall provision would be unfair to those elected officials who are performing their responsibilities with integrity and they could be subject to a recall vote which could be irresponsible." Sclar also argued that recall could be a "weapon of intimidation" and said accountability would come at election time.

Commission member Sylvio Bourdeau said he believes in recall. "I believe that every citizen should have the right to change his government at any time. If you feel an elected official is not doing his job, you should have the right to remove him and not wait three years to do it until the man has done all sorts of damage."

George Buron, of Hayward Lane, also argued in favor of recall, saying that all officials should have that "little fear of God" hanging over them.

After the charter had been reviewed, former State Representative Richard Dwinell gave his unqualified endorsement of the charter, noting that he has been involved in town government for the past 50 years beginning when two thirds of the town officials worked out of their homes. "The days of running government out of your home are over," he said. "Town government is too complex." He went on to state that the town needs someone five days a week, eight hours a day to take care of problems when they arise. "We need continuity," Dwinell said, "and the only way we can get it is to put someone in the town hall full time."

While noting that there were some items in the charter with which he disagreed, Dwinell concluded, "I will vote for it, and I will fight for it." Dwinell's comments received a round of applause.

Terry Hamilton concluded the meeting by assuring the audience that their concerns will be addressed at future commission meetings. The commission is scheduled to issue its final report at the end of February.

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Glen Ellen White Zinfandel 750 ml.....3/$9.99
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Strohs 12 oz. Cans.....$8.79 + dep.
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Route 146 865-6628 Millbury, Ma

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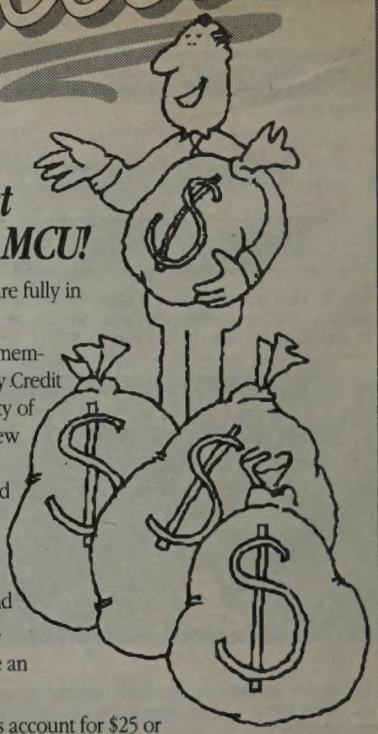

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